IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A thin-film coated toner ~~that is~~ comprising a powder toner, with a softening temperature ranging from 50 to 150°C; ~~whose~~

a surface of the powder toner [[is]] coated substantially continuously with the thin film comprising [[a]] an urea-base thermosetting resin, wherein said powder toner is a ground toner; and

wherein the urea-base resin is formed by resinifying a urea-base resin precursor mixture which comprises at least either one of a urea and a urea derivative and at least either one of a formaldehyde and formaldehyde derivative on the surface of the powder toner, while avoiding fusing the powder toner.

2. (Previously Presented) A thin-film coated toner according to claim 1, wherein said powder toner having a fusing temperature that is 145° or lower.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A thin-film coated toner according to claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein an average film thickness of the thin film is 0.005 to 1μm.

7. (Currently Amended) A thin-film coated toner according to claim 1, wherein the powder toner is a polymerized toner.

8. (Original) A thin-film coated toner according to claim 7, wherein the polymerized toner is a polymerized toner secondary particle formed by an aggregation of a polymerized toner primary particle.

9. (Previously Presented) A thin-film coated toner according to claim 1, wherein a true sphericity (DSF) defined by the following formula I is 0.85 or more;

$$DSF = m/M \qquad I$$

wherein m represents a minimum diameter of a projection drawing of the toner and M represents a maximum diameter of the projection drawing of the same.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a thin-film coated toner comprising steps of: dispersing a powder toner in a solid state in a water-base medium in which a dispersant is dissolved;

mixing a monomer or a pre-polymer of a thermosetting resin into the dispersion; and

resinifying the raw material while avoiding fusing the powder toner, and coating a surface of the powder toner with the thin film comprising the thermosetting resin.

11. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a thin-film coated toner, comprising steps of:

emulsion-polymerizing a toner ingredient that comprises a binder resin monomer as a raw material for a binder resin to prepare a dispersion of a powder toner;

mixing a monomer of a thermosetting resin or a pre-polymer of a thermosetting resin as a raw material for the thermosetting resin into the dispersion of the powder toner; and

resinifying the monomer of the thermosetting resin or the pre-polymer of the thermosetting resin while avoiding fusing the powder toner, and coating a surface of the powder toner with the thin film comprising the thermosetting resin.

12. (Withdrawn) A method for producing the thin-film coated toner according to claims 10 or 11, further comprising a step of aggregating the powder toner.

13. (Withdrawn) A method for producing the thin-film coated toner according to one of claims 10 to 12, further comprising a step of heating the powder toner in a temperature range that causes no thermal breakage of the thin film to fuse the powder toner.